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SCIENTIFIC NEWS.

— Dr. G. Ruge, of Heidelberg, has been called to the Professorship of Anatomy at Amsterdam.

— The results of the explorations of the late N. M. Prjewalski in Central Asia are to be published by the Imperial Academy of Sciences of St. Petersburg, at the expense of the Crown Prince Nikolas Alexander. The first part of the first volume of Zoology has appeared and contains the Mammals by E. Büchner. Prjewalski was just starting on a new journey to Central Asia when his death occurred, Nov. 1, at Karacol. He belonged to a noble family and was born in 1839. His first Siberian journey was undertaken with ridiculously small means; it lasted thirty-four months and cost 6000 roubles (\$4200). His second journey (1877) was under the auspices of the Russian War Department and resulted in the re-discovery of the Lob-Nor, which had not been seen by a single European since the days of Marco Polo. His third journey resulted in his discovery of the ancestor of the domestic horse (*Equus prjewalskii* Poliaeff). The fourth journey (1883) had for its objective point Thibet, and the fifth, on which he had just started when his death occurred, was an attempt to reach H'lassa, the sacred city of Lamaism. Prjewalski's natural history collections embraced 700 specimens of mammals, 5000 birds, 1200 reptiles and batrachia, 800 fishes, 2000 molluscs, 10,000 insects, and between 15,000 and 16,000 plants.

— Prof. A. C. Haddon, of Dublin, who sailed last summer for Torres Strait, has arrived there safely, and is engaged in studying the Sea Anemones, Nudibranchs, and the habits and placentation of the dugong or southern sea-cow. He is also collecting all the ethnological material obtainable, as the native population is rapidly dying out.

— The Copley Medal of the Royal Society is this year awarded to Prof. T. H. Huxley for his investigations on the morphology and histology of vertebrate and invertebrate animals. Baron Ferdinand von Müller receives the Royal Medal for his investigations of the Flora of Australia.

— The Costa Rican government has established a National Museum at San José.

— Samuel P. Fowler of Danvers, Mass., died Dec. 14, 1888, aged 88 years. He was a contributor to the AMERICAN NATURALIST in its early years.

— Prof. T. Kjerulf, the well-known geologist of Christiania, Norway, died in that city, Oct. 25, 1888

— Mr. Francis Darwin has been elected University Reader in Botany in the University of Cambridge in succession to Dr. Vines, now Professor at Oxford.

— Mr. Charles B. Cory, chairman of the Committee on Hypnotism of the American Society of Psychical Research, has issued his report. He believes that its use in connection with nervous diseases is worthy of consideration.

— Mr. H. A. Pilsbry is continuing the Manual of Conchology, Structural and Systematic, begun by the late Geo. W. Tryon. Part 39 of the first and Part 15 of the second series have recently been issued.

— G. Bellonci, Professor of Anatomy in the University of Bologna, died July 1, 1888, aged 30 years.

— G. Johann Kriesch, Professor of Zoology in the Polytechnicum at Budapesth, died October 21, aged 54 years.

— Dr. Robert Lamborn has presented a cast of the *Phenacodus primævus* to the American Museum of Natural History, New York. He has also deposited a fine collection of Mexican antiquities in the Metropolitan Art Museum, New York, and a collection of Tuscan antiquities in the Museum of the School of Industrial Art, Philadelphia.

— Professor Joseph Leidy, of Philadelphia, has received the Cuvier prize of the French Academy of Sciences in recognition of his important work in Natural History.

— A work on the Extinct Mammalia, by Professors Scott and Osborn, of Princeton, N. J., has been announced by D. Appleton & Sons, New York.

— Mr. E. T. Dumble has been appointed State Geologist of Texas.

— Prof. J. T. Branner recently reported unfavorably on the supposed silver and gold mines of Arkansas, of which State he is Geologist. The abuse he received from the papers of the alleged mining regions was extraordinary and unparalleled, but when he offered to submit the question to the judgment of other geologists, they did not accept his challenge.

TWO INTERESTING MODELS FOR ANATOMICAL STUDIES.—Everybody who has visited the British Museum of Natural History in London has noticed the highly instructive anatomical preparations in the Central Hall of this wonderful building. A great part of these preparations are made by the very skilful hand of Mr. Richard S. Wray, B.Sc., one of Prof. Flower's assistants.

Besides these specimens Mr. Wray has prepared some very good models for the Museum ; two of these can be now obtained from him.

1. Model of *Amphioxus*, showing the general relations and dispositions of the organs as seen from the left side. Price, £2 2s. (\$10, about.)

This is a reproduction of the original wax model forming part of the series of models and drawings prepared to illustrate the structure of *Amphioxus* for the Index Museum of the British Museum (Natural History). The different organs are distinctively colored, and the model shows at a glance all the more important anatomical relations of the animal. The disposition and relations of the central nervous system, notochord, alimentary canal (pharynx, liver, anus, etc.), the epipleural cavity with its backward extension towards the anus, the cardiac and dorsal aortæ, are all clearly shown together with other details.

2. Enlarged model of the left side of the lower jaw of a young *Ornithorhynchus*, showing the tooth germs *in situ*. Price, 10s. 6d. (\$2.60, about.)

The following quotation from the label attached to the original preparation and model in the Index Museum of the British Museum (Natural History) will fully explain its nature :

"In the *Ornithorhynchus* teeth are absent in the adult,.....
In the young state, there are, however, distinct tooth rudiments with calcified cusps, beneath the region in which the horny plates are afterwards developed.

"The small glass vessel contains the left side of the lower jaw of a young *Ornithorhynchus*, prepared to show the tooth germs *in situ*, the characters of which are more clearly shown in the enlarged model placed by it."

Communications relating to the above to be addressed Richard S. Wray, 23, St. Germain's Road, Forest Hill, London, S. E.

I can only recommend these highly instructive models to every student of Biology.

G. BAUR, New Haven, Conn.